

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00591 080933Z

13

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 H-02 SSO-00 /013 W

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O 080920Z MAY 76

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3116

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 0591

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, IZ (HILL, ERNEST CLIFTON)

SUBJ: DEATH CASE (ERNEST CLIFTON HILL)

REF: (A) STATE 108559, (B) STATE 108602

1. FONMIN CONFIRMED TO USINT OFFICER THAT ERNEST CLIFTON HILL DIED IN BASRA ON MAY 4. FONMIN SAID THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR SHIPPING THE REMAINS WOULD BE MADE THROUGH INOC AND THAT PASSPORT AND PERSONAL PROPERTY WOULD BE RETURNED TO USINT THROUGH POLICE. USINT ALSO ASSURED THAT DEATH CERTIFICATE WOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO USINT INCLUDING OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON CAUSE OF DEATH.

2. FONMIN SAID THAT HILL HAD BEEN ILL WITH HEART TROUBLE AND HAD DIED OF A HEART ATTACK. FONMIN SUGGESTED THAT USINT GET IN TOUCH WITH INOC AND WITH ANOTHER AMERICAN NAMED LOWRIE WHO HAD COME TO BASRA WITH HILL.

3. USINT CONTACTED INOC DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR PRODUCTION, MR. TAKHI, WHO SAID LOWRIE WAS COMING TO BAGHDAD EVENING OF MAY 5 AND HE WOULD ASK LOWRIE TO CONTACT USINT. TAKHI SAID BODY WAS IN FREEZER, PRESUMABLY AT HOSPITAL IN BASRA.

4. LOWRIE DID NOT CONTACT USINT WHEN HE WAS IN BAGHDAD MAY 5 AND RETURNED TO BASRA MORNING OF MAY 6. USINT'S EFFORTS TO REACH HIM BY PHONE HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. ACCORDING TO INOC, LOWRIE DID CALL HIS COMPANY HEADQUARTERS IN TULSA FROM BAGHDAD EVENING OF MAY 5.

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5. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK THROUGH FONMIN AND INOC AND WILL TRY

TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR CONSULAR OFFICER GO TO BASRA.

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Message Attributes

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